



**FREE WILL  
REVIEW**

**COMPETITIVE  
RATES**

**HOME VISITS  
AVAILABLE**

# Wills, Probate & Elderly Advice

There is little we don't know about wills, probate and tax planning and our Wills & Probate team have built a reputation for providing a prompt, professional and personal service to their clients.

## Wills

We have been making and administering wills throughout the firm's existence and now look after over 25,000 wills for people throughout the country.

We provide an efficient service at a competitive price; please contact our friendly team if you wish to enquire about making a will.

## Power of Attorney

If you or a loved one wish to appoint a trusted individual as an 'attorney' to make decisions on your/their behalf, we can happily draft up this documentation for you at an affordable rate.

## Probate

The team can also assist with administering an estate following someone's death. We can assist with interpretation of a will or advice on intestacy if there is no will, valuation and collection of the estate assets and payment of debts along with many more legal issues to consider in the event of someone's death.

[www.theleedslawfirm.co.uk](http://www.theleedslawfirm.co.uk)

Tel: 0113 284 5000

The **Leeds** Law Firm



ison harrison  
solicitors

## What our clients say...

"Friendly and very efficient service"

**Mr & Mrs Garbutt (Leeds)**

"I felt what might have been a little stressful was a reassuring experience."

**Mrs Burton (Otley)**



"The level of service given to us was excellent. You made us feel very confident, and made a sombre occasion very enjoyable. We would not hesitate to recommend your organisation and will use you again should the need arise."

**Mrs Webb (Leeds)**

"Excellent one to one relationship, leading to customer confidence in advice being given and sought"

**Mr Geddes (Leeds)**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do I need a Will?

If you do not have a Will then in the event of your death your estate may not go where you would want it to go. Your estate does not necessarily pass to your spouse under the intestacy rules. The advantages of having a Will include allowing you to control the destination of your assets, appoint guardians for your children, avoid disputes and save Inheritance Tax and Nursing Home fees.

### Do I need to change my Will?

If you have a professionally drawn-up Will then there is every probability that it will not need to be changed. However changes of circumstances including divorce, death, rules of taxation/nursing home fee assessment and family fallouts can mean that it is vital to change your Will. We would advise reviewing your Will at least every five years.

### Why should I use a solicitor?

Using a solicitor is usually cheap and straightforward. It means that you will be given the correct advice, that the Will will be valid and that your intentions will be met in the event of your death.

Where people make home-made wills incorrectly it often leads to problems on death which are expensive and sometimes not possible to fix. The costs for such matters can run into thousands of pounds so it is obviously wise to avoid this by taking professional advice whilst you are alive.

### Does everything automatically go to my spouse?

No. Under the intestacy rules, a spouse (where the deceased leaves children) receives property held as Joint Tenants, personal effects and the first £250,000. The rest of the estate gets split with half being held on trust for the spouse and the other half going to the children outright at the age of 18.

### If I don't have a Will, will my estate go to the state?

No. If you don't leave a Will your estate will go to your closest relatives. These will be your spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, cousins and remoter people. Only in the rare event of you not having any such relatives will your estate go to the state under what is called "Bona Vacantia". If you do not have any close relatives it is perhaps more likely that your estate will go to cousins who you may have never met.

### How can I avoid paying nursing home fees?

By looking at your affairs in good time, by taking the appropriate steps to protect your home, normally by making an appropriate Will or by the use of a simple family trust you may be able to effectively avoid paying nursing home fees or dramatically reduce the amount of nursing home fees you would otherwise pay.

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